

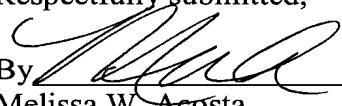
**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 4, 5-25, 27-32, 34, 35 and 46 are pending. Claims 26 and 33 have been canceled and claims 1, 6, 20, 21 and 46 have been amended without prejudice and with acquiescence. These amendments are made to clarify the scope of the invention. These amendments place the claims in better condition for allowance and/or appeal. Applicants assert that these amendments are made to place the application in better condition for appeal. Applicants respectfully request that the amendments be entered. No new matter has been added.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. 09507112 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: May 25, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Melissa W. Acosta

Registration No.: 45,872

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.

1301 McKinney, Suite 5100

Houston, Texas 77010-3095

(713) 651-5151

(713) 651-5246 (Fax)